

REMARKS**1. Amendments**

New claims 6-18 have been added to more clearly define the claimed invention. No new matter has been added with these amendments as the new claims copy claims 2-4, and 6-15 of the allowed parent application. Entry of these claims is respectfully requested.

2. Rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §112 2nd paragraph.

Claims 1-5 have been rejected on the grounds that the specification, while being enabling for "(C)" compounds having a plurality of methylol or methylalkoxy groups does not reasonably provide enablement for "(C)" compounds having a plurality of mercapto groups.

The Undersigned is somewhat confused by the basis of rejection as independent claim 1 does not recite a mercapto group. Rather, claim 1 requires a curing agent (C) having a "...plurality of functional groups reactive with said carbamate groups...". Applicants discuss the various functional groups reactive with carbamate groups on page 11 of the Specification, lines 19-29.

The first sentence of the second paragraph of Section 112 is a requirement for precision and definiteness of claim language. If the scope of subject matter embraced by a claim is clear and if the applicant has not otherwise indicated that he intends the claim to be of a different scope, then the claim particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention. In re Borkowski et al., 164 USPQ 642, (CCPA 1970)

Definiteness of claim language must be analyzed, not in a vacuum, but in light of (1) the content of the particular application disclosure, (2) the teachings of the prior art, and (3) the claim interpretation that would be given by one possessing the ordinary level of skill in the pertinent art at the time the invention was made. See, e.g., *In re Marosi*, 710 F.2d 799, 218 U.S.P.Q. 289 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *Rosemount, Inc. v. Beckman Instruments, Inc.*, 727 F.2d 1540, 221 U.S.P.Q. 1 (Fed. Cir. 1984); *W.L. Gore & Assocs., Inc. v. Garlock, Inc.*, 721 F.2d 1540, 220 U.S.P.Q. 303 (Fed. Cir. 1983)

It is respectfully submitted that this standard has been met in view of the teachings of Applicant's Specification and the knowledge of those of skill in the art.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is not indefinite for use of the phrase "...plurality of functional groups reactive with said carbamate groups...".

Reconsideration and removal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

3. **Amendment of the Abstract.**

Correction of the Abstract was required because it contained more than 250 words. Applicants have amended the Abstract so that it now has less than 150 words.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

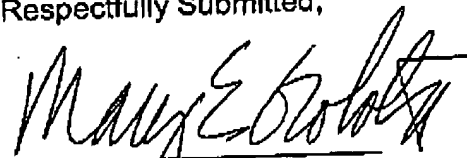
4. **Amendment of the Specification.**

The Specification has been amended to include the Patent No. of the parent case.

Conclusion

The Application is believed to be patentable. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the Undersigned by telephone as necessary.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mary E. Golota
Registration No. 36,814

April 14, 2003
BASF Corporation
26701 Telegraph Road
Southfield, Michigan 48034-2442
(248)-948-2020
Customer No. 26922

FAX RECEIVED
APR 14 2003
GROUP 1700